

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

The specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised to make editorial changes thereto and generally improve the form thereof, and a substitute specification and abstract are provided. No new matter has been added by the substitute specification and abstract.

The instant invention pertains to a pocket for a garment, particularly to a pocket for preventing small articles from falling from the pocket even if a person wearing the garment bends downwardly or moves quickly.

With reference to Figs. 3 and 4, for example, the pocket includes a first space designed to contain an article 21, with the first space being on a first side of garment cloth 12 and having an opening at an upper edge thereof. The pocket further includes a bag-like catch extension 22 that defines a second space for retaining the article as shown in Fig. 5. The second space is in communication with the first space and is positioned on a second side of the garment cloth 12, with the first side of the garment cloth being opposite to the second side of the garment cloth. And, structure 15, 16 is provided for releasably sealing the opening of the first space. By providing the pocket in such a manner, when article 21 is located within the first space and the person wearing the garment bends downwardly or moves quickly, the article will be conveyed into the bag-like catch extension such that the article is prevented from falling from the pocket. New claim 8 is believed to be representative of Applicant's inventive pocket.

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenberg et al. in view of Macinai et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed, and the references relied upon by the Examiner are not applicable with regard to the newly added claims for the following reasons.

Greenberg et al. discloses a jacket having plural pockets thereon, which pockets are designed to be closed. Macinai et al. discloses a handbag having a reversible flap. The Examiner recognized that Greenberg et al. fails to disclose a bag-like catch extension, and thus relied upon Macinai et al. for concluding that it would have been obvious to provide Greenberg et al. with a bag-like catch extension. Though it is not entirely clear as to what structure of Macinai et al. the Examiner has equated to the claimed bag-like catch extension, such that it cannot be fully appreciated as to how

Greenberg et al. is to be modified so as to teach the bag-like catch extension as claimed, it is respectfully submitted that were Greenberg et al. combined with Macinai et al., the invention as recited in claim 1 would not be met.

In this regard, it is respectfully submitted that were Greenberg et al. modified in view of Macinai et al., the resulting combination would simply be a pocket closed by a conventional flap that is attached to either an outside of the pocket or an inside of the pocket; however, such flap would not include the bag-like catch extension as recited in claim 1.

In any event, claim 1 has been replaced by claim 8, which more specifically defines the bag-like catch extension. In this regard, claim 8 requires that the pocket includes a first space on a first side of a portion of a garment, and that the bag-like catch extension defines a second space on a second opposite side of the portion of the garment. This is clearly shown in Fig. 3, for example, wherein the bag-like catch extension 22 is on a first side of garment cloth 12, while the article containing space is on an opposite side of the garment cloth.

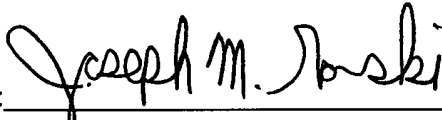
Neither Greenberg et al. nor Macinai et al. teach or suggest article-retaining spaces on opposite sides of a member. Accordingly, were Greenberg et al. modified in view of Macinai et al. as suggested by the Examiner, any article containing space(s) would be defined on only one side of garment 18 such that the invention as recited in claim 8 would not be met by a combination of these references. Thus, claim 8 is not obvious over a combination of Greenberg et al. and Macinai et al., whereby claims 8-27 are allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner believes that any issues remain which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative by telephone to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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